MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know from Government whether they have taken steps for reducing the number of gazetted officers and thereby reduce individual audit every year?

MR. R. RAMA VARIER: Sir, the question has no bearing on the main question.

P. W. D. Maistries in the Kottayam Division.

34. *MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI: Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by caste, of the P. W. D. Maistries in the Kottayam Division?

MR. J. W. CHACKO (*Superintendent, Workshops, in charge of Chief Engineer's duties*): The *statement required is laid on the table.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know from the honourable member the reason why no Ezhava finds a place in the list of Maistries in the Kottayam Division while there are 64 Nairs and 96 Christians working as Maistries in that Division?

MR. J. W. CHACKO: The reason might be because there were not sufficient number of applicants for that particular post from the community referred to by the honourable member or that the Nairs and the Christian applicants are found to be more suitable for the post.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: Is there not a single Ezhava candidate suitable for a Maistry's post?

MR J.W. CHACKO: I would refer the honourable member to the first part of my answer just given.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know from the honourable member whether it is to be inferred that there is not a single qualified and proper Ezhava candidate for the post in the whole of the Kottayam Division?

MR. J. W. CHACKO: No, Sir.

MR. MURUKKUMPUZHA V. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know whether any qualification is fixed for the post?

MR. J. W. CHACKO: The qualification prescribed for the post now is either S.M.T. Maistry Class examination or any other equivalent.

MR. MURUKKUMPUZHA V. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know whether all these persons now appointed as Maistries possess those qualifications?

MR. J. W. CHACKO: The qualifications were prescribed only recently. In the olden days when there was no class for Maistries they were appointed according to the experience they had in the line.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know how many Maistries were appointed in the current year?

MR. J. W. CHACKO: I claim notice, Sir.

Vide Appendix VI. page 73.

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MR. MURUKKUMPUZHA V. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know whether the principle of communal representation was considered in the appointment of Maistries?

MR. J. W. CHACKO: That principle is not considered unless there are applicants with the prescribed qualifications. Then preference will be given to backward communities.

MR. MURUKKUMPUZHA V. KUNJUKRISHNAN: Am I to understand then that in the whole of the Kottayam District there were not sufficient number of applicants from the Ezhava community for the post?

MR. J. W. CHACKO: No, Sir.

P. W. D. Maistries in the Quilon Division.

35. *MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI: Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by caste, of the P. W. D. Maistries in the Quilon Division?

MR. J. W. CHACKO: The *statement required is laid on the table.

**Vide* Appendix VII. page 74.

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Appendix VI.

***Vide* Answer to Question No. 34**

Caste-War Statement of the P. W. D. Maistries in the Kottayam Division.

Caste.		*No.*
A.	HINDU.	
1.	Brahmin	30
2.	Nayar	64
3.	Other Caste Hindu	10
4.	Kammala	2
5.	Nadar	...
6.	Ezhava	9
7.	Cheramar (Pulaya)	...
8.	Other Hindu	...
B.	MUSLIM	
C.	CHRISTIAN.	
1.	Jacobite	49
2.	Marthomite	16
3.	Syriac Catholic	13
4.	Latin Catholic	2
5.	South Indian United Church	...
6.	Other Christian	16

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